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# BY THE WAY with BILL HENRY

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You probably wonder what the final seizure of despotic power by Khrushchev in Russia is going to mean to the world in general and to the United States in particular—so you'd probably like to know how we arrive at our official opinion.

**WHAT NEXT?**—A new seizure of power is one of the greatest possibilities in the world. It means that as another Hitler, Khrushchev may unleash a great world holocaust. Perhaps it means, on the other hand, a tremendous internal struggle inside the Kremlin which will result in the collapse of the whole phony political structure of the Soviet Union. More likely it means something somewhere in between these two. But with Russia's conventional and nuclear weapons, with any other, atomic and hydrogen bombs, and weapons with which it can destroy the world, any change in the top government is of great consequence to the rest of the world. And the fact is, of course, that nobody really knows what it means. Mysteriously, for five Russia has long been, and remains, a riddle. We can't really know the answer. The best we can do is to make an educated guess. How do we go about it?

**INFO HUNT**—Since there is no one source of solid information, the chances are that Khrushchev himself doesn't quite know what he's going to do; he just seizes power and decides later on what to do with it. —he is only one way to arrive at any sensible estimate of the situation. We must collect information, gossip, fact, opinion, rumor, guesswork from all possible source and then turn this over to some kind of authority which, through lengthy experience and understanding, can give it a reasonably intelligent evaluation. The chances are that last week's famous White House meeting which included our top military and diplomatic brass was just such an evaluation to just such an evaluation which had been made, and was being submitted, by the CIA.

**WHAT IS THE CIA?**—Those initials stand for Central Intelligence Agency, and since any such organization in the final analysis is personified in one man, CIA usually is regarded as the lengthened shadow of Allen Welsh Dulles, whose job vitally parallels that of his older brother, John Foster Dulles, but whose deliberate self-effacement is in sharp contrast to the nonstop, though less publicized publicity which surrounds the Secretary of State. Generally speaking, Allen Dulles is neither well-known, widely known, but when any event such as this Kremlin upheaval, or the Suez invasion, or trouble in Sumatra takes place, the first man called to the White House to answer the question "What does this mean?" is Allen Dulles.

**MACINERY**—Dulles himself is a wealthy Princetonian, an old Beta Kappa nearing what is laughingly called "retirement age." He plays a strenuous game of tennis, built up about 80, loves to read Erle Stanley Gardner's legal mysteries and is as big physically and as seemingly indestructible as his more celebrated older brother. He thoroughly enjoys his job as head of a secret agency whose size, character and activities are known to only a handful of top people in Washington. He has his fingers touching every place in the world and in a matter such as this Khrushchev seizure his opinion is based on everything that comes in, culled from as diverse sources as spies and informants behind the Iron Curtain, possibly in the KGB, and owl-like-looking intelligentsia whose job of Russia is confined to translating Soviet newspapers, periodicals and the like. No doubt, in arriving at his conclusion, Dulles has given due weight to reports by our Ambassador in Moscow, our ex-ambassador Bohlen, now in Manila, who may have learned something leaking out of the Bamboo Curtain, and even to opinions that may have come from such Johnny-come-lately and unlikely sources as Mike Todd and Bob Hope—you never can tell what morsel of important information they may have picked up. Dulles shakes his assorted stuff up and comes up with an educated guess and hope.